

## DESIGN MEMORANDUM NO. 9-04

TO: Chief District Engineers  
Design Engineers  
Active Consultants

FROM: Gary W. Sharpe, P.E.  
Director  
Division of Highway Design

DATE: July 29, 2004

SUBJECT: Roadside Design Guidelines



The Highway Design Manual is currently undergoing an intensive rewrite. As the initial draft of each chapter is completed, it is being released as a Design Memorandum. This will implement the policy presented therein.

This specific Design Memorandum deals with roadside design guidance. A copy of the Roadside Design Guidelines can be obtained from the Division of Highway Design's Web page at <http://www.kytc.state.ky.us/design/designmanual/>.

The Roadside Design Guidelines provides information concerning concepts of roadside safety design. Areas covered in this chapter include general guidance for safe roadside designs, clear zone concepts, roadside barriers, length of need concept, use of curbs, median barriers, barrier end treatments and crash cushions and roadside design in work zones. This chapter is written to more closely follow the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide.

The schedule for implementation is as follows. Effective with this memorandum, the Roadside Design Guidelines should be utilized for all new projects or for existing projects that have not advanced beyond the Preliminary Line and Grade stage. Plans, Design Executive Summaries, Plan Submittals, etc., should reflect the new policy.

Projects that have advanced beyond Preliminary Line and Grade, but will be let to contract prior to July 1, 2005, may use the criteria and features from the previous Highway Design Manual. However, it is allowable to use any of the policy written in the Roadside Design Guidelines of the upcoming Highway Design Manual for these type projects if necessary or desired by the Project Manager/Project Team. The specific version of the Roadside Design Guide used for the project development should be documented in Project Team Minutes and in the Design Executive Summary.

Projects let to contract after July 1, 2005, must comply with these Roadside Design Guidelines documented herein unless otherwise approved by the Director of Highway Design.

Any questions regarding the implementation of this memorandum should be directed to this office.

GWS:JDJ:JAD